

**CALCULATION, REPRESENTATION, AND MAINTANENCE OF SHARING-
INFORMATION IN MESH NETWORKS**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for representing, in a network data structure, a minimum amount of
protection bandwidth required to be reserved on each link in a mesh network, to restore
service upon failure of another node or link in the network. The method includes (1)
receiving a request for a new service in the network, wherein the new service is represented
by a service data structure having an identification of each link and transit node in a primary
10 path for the new service, (2) determining, using the network and service data structures,
whether the new service requires additional protection bandwidth to be reserved on any link
in the network, and (3) updating the network data structure if any additional protection
bandwidth is determined to be needed. In one implementation the network and service data
structures are vectors and the steps of determining and updating involve vector operations
15 between these structures.